

SUIT OVER A GAME OF CAR

**The Court Asked to Decide a
puted Point Which Arose T
Years Ago.**

An interesting suit, which may con-
tribut in the New York supreme court

months hence, is the result of a difference of opinion as to the rules governing a game of cards. The players were Robert A. O'Brien and J. R. Fisher. The game was played at the Surf Hotel, Fire Island, on an unlucky day in September, 1889. Mr. Fisher, the plaintiff in the action, at first agreed with Mr. Chesebrough to refer to an arbitrator whom both considered good the question at issue and the ownership of \$400, one of which sum was placed in the hands of Capt. David S. S. Sammis, the proprietor of the hotel, as stakeholder, by each of

the hotel property to the state for quarantine purposes.

When the arbitrator gave his decision, it was not, it is said, ruled either against or in favor of the principal position, but decided in favor of certain hypothetical circumstances. Mr. Chester lost the case, while under other conditions the result would be with Mr. Fisher. This dictum, Mr. Fisher thought, made the result a draw, while Capt. Sammis thought that the decision looked upon the ruling in the manner desired.

The next step was a demand for a

upon the stakeholder for the \$200 which was put up. The demand was refused, it was not until October, 1892, that Mr. P. H. Randall presented the summons in the case of Capt. Samuel Randall vs. the City of New York. The attorneys, made a general denial of the plaintiff's allegations, and set up a defense that if the plaintiff had any action the suit should have been brought within three years.

It was argued that the suit was not barred by the Statute of limitations until six months after the date of the game.

William F. Randall, who was substituted as attorney in the suit in place of the plaintiff's attorneys some months ago, says

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He was asked if the suit appear to have looked the fact that under section 341 of the penal code they both would be liable to pay to the overseers of the poor of the county five times the amount of their own change as a penalty, inasmuch as more than changed hands within twenty-four hours.

In the quiet little game at the Surf I saw what the game was Mr. Randel could definitely say, but he strongly suspected that it was poker.

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FAILURE IN PHILADELPHIA

A Big Coal Commission Firm Goes Bust

The Wall.

Samuel Helmer, trading as Percy H. Helmer & Son, in the coal commission business, 314 Walnut street, Philadelphia, has agreed to Albert B. Weimer. Mr. Helmer is director of the New York and New England Railroad Company, and his failure is due to the downfall of that corporation being a large holder of its securities. The failure is an important one and the firm is one of the oldest in the coal business, it having been established in 1837. Mr. Helmer is also a director of the London and Broadport Railroad Company.

The New York stock market has seen one of the direst of the New York and New England stock exchanges since last March, when the collapse of the financial support contributed largely to the success of Mr. McLeod in securing control of the property. Mr. Heinzel, whose re-entry with the Reading Railroad has always been very close, was induced last winter, after Mr. McLeod had been in the effort to obtain control of the property, to advance money to the aggregate of \$200,000. This sum is said to have been lost.

A few weeks ago, when New York stock advanced sharply on the prospect of the company securing an independent franchise into the Pennsylvania, Heinzel increased his interest in the stock.

At the same time, it was declared yesterday, a speculative pool was formed to advance the stock, but its efforts were out of place by heavy sales which were being traced to the company. The pool was traced to President McLeod, who was supposed to have been aiding the pool; and the holdings were at once liquidated, and the resultant decline in the prices proved a drain upon Mr. McLeod's resources.

It was further reported that a pool had been formed for the purpose of holding out against the company, and that the pool was so large that it was expected to cripple the finances as far as an assignment inevitable. The embargo firm has offices in New York, Baltimore, Reading and London, England, as well as Philadelphia. It was for a long time

Mr. Helmer, who is now the sole owner of the firm, has always enjoyed a high reputation for business ability and integrity; the announcement of his failure was a shock to the business community.

As soon as the news of the failure reached the street, the financial associations were forthcoming and a prominent banker called to beg Mr. Helmer to accept his help, but the assignment had already been made.

The liabilities of Helmer & Co. are at \$500,000.

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DECREASE IN BRITISH TRADE

The Pall Mall Gazette of London on yesterday afternoon in a review of the year's trade of Great Britain: "The general trade has been worse than in 1881. Last year ended with an enormous loss of imports and exports, but as 1883 draws a close 1882 seems brighter when compared with the present gloom over the country's industries. In the first eleven months of 1883 imports declined over £17,500,000 compared with the first eleven months of 1882, while exports were reduced £6,500,000."

Tobacco imports increased \$67,000, and imported oils and German articles increased \$600,000. These are the only exceptions to the general decline. The exports of drink, chemicals, and machinery increased. The yarns and textile fabrics exports increased \$2,745,000. The coal exports increased \$2,250,000. Before the coal industry showed brighter signs.

"The cotton trade especially suffered from the coal strike and increased foreign competition. Only 10,000,000 hundred weight of raw cotton were purchased, while during the first eleven months of 1919

United States alone. The unbroken decline since 1891 in the quantity and quality of these goods for export to the east, for although most European prices have increased their demand for these goods and the returns show a marked improvement, the demand for the contrary is waning. The orders for silk and Japan are gradually growing small and Turkey also has required less.

The American trade has steadily advanced. What effect the change in the United States will bring about is a matter of conjecture. The Lancashire merchants did not fear the McKinley tariff bill because they sent their best

but statistics. If the McKinley tariff had not been enacted, therefore, it has been increased the cotton exports of the first eleven months of 1893 exported over 1,339,536, this being an increase over previous years.

"Israel and the South American republics are great buyers, but not half the quantity was shipped to China as in 1892. The woolen trade bears a bright aspect, many is our best customer for wooleens, worsted yarns, taking nearly half the exports. The export of woolen tissues amounted in the first eleven months of 1893 to 4,839,000 yards, an increase of 10 per cent over these months this year. The exports of worsted tissues, which amounted to 8

500 in 1892, fell to 47,561,732 in 1898."

STABBED BY A RIVAL.

A Rejected Suitor Goes Out Eyes of a Lover.

Stephen Stabol and Anthony Wend Hazleton, Pa., have been rivals for affections and hand of Mary Leony, a girl of eighteen. Stabol found the move in Miss Leony's sight, and Wend came bitter toward him. On Christmas Wendel determined to end the matter by lay his hand and heart at the feet of

girl beloved. He called at her house and found Stabol there.

Wendel left without pressing his suit, returned in the evening and proposed. He was rejected. He left, vowing revenge on his successful rival. Yesterday he met Stabol at the hotel. He met him after some angry words, Wendel snatched a dagger, and crying out, "Thy eyes out," he sprang upon Stabol and drove his weapon into his rival's eye.

One twist of the blade, and the eyes were gone. Stabol lay on the floor, began to cut and slash viciously at Stabol's other eye. Shrieking with pain and drenched with blood, Stabol broke away